



MILTON

Norfolk County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Milton is an affluent suburban community between the Neponset River and the Blue Hills. Although the first English traders used Milton in the 1620's, the earliest permanent settlement occurred in 1634 when colonists created an agricultural community growing barley, rye and Indian corn. A powder mill established in 1674 is thought to be the earliest in the colonies, taking advantage of the town's valuable water power sites. Boston investors, seeing the potential of the town and its proximity to the city, provided the capital to develop 18th century Milton as an important industrial site with an iron slitting mill, paper and sawmills and the first chocolate factory in New England in 1764. Benjamin Crahore began making pianos in 1800 in what is thought to be the first piano factory in the country. In 1809 the first public health drive in the country was held in Milton to inoculate residents against smallpox. Situated at the head of a tidewater, the town became a commercial trading center where goods from the interior could be exchanged for West Indian goods. Prosperous Bostonians, including Governor Hutchinson, followed their investments and moved to Milton, creating an early estate district which grew side-by-side with 125 farms. Also increasing the town's population were immigrants from Ireland, Nova Scotia and Scotland drawn to the jobs the community offered. Harvard University built a stone tower on Big Blue, the tallest hill on the coast between Maine and Florida, to mark the meridian in alignment with its observatory in Cambridge. Big Blue assumed an important meteorological role, the state created a reservation including the hill and Milton Academy and Fontbonne Academy were built, all during the 19th century. Laying of streetcar lines fueled the rapid expansion of residential development and between 1870 and 1915 Milton grew into essentially the community it is now, a wealthy streetcar suburb with only some chocolates, biscuits and market produce to remind residents of the past. By 1929 many of the big estates were broken up into subdivisions continuing the town's residential growth. Milton now retains a good many 19th century country houses and estates and early 19th century workers' housing.

(Seal supplied by community. Narrative based on information provided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Randolph on the south, Canton on the west, Boston on the north, and Quincy on the east. Milton is 8 miles southwest of Boston, 13 miles north of Brockton, and about 220 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 13.28 sq. miles

Land Area: 13.04 sq. miles

Population: 25,725

Density: 1,973 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Blue Hill Station)

Normal temperature in January.....25.3°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.2°F

Normal annual precipitation.....49.0"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Blue Hills, Boston South, Norwood

Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (617) 696-5000

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Executive Secretary

Representative Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1662

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

| | Number | % | |
|-------------------|--------|------|---|
| Total Registered | 16,052 | | |
| Democrats | 8,026 | 50.0 | % |
| Republicans | 2,056 | 12.8 | % |
| Other parties | 3 | 0.0 | % |
| Unenrolled Voters | 5,967 | 37.2 | % |

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Milton town, Norfolk County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

| Subject | Number | Percent | Subject | Number | Percent |
|---|--------|---------|--|--------|---------|
| Total population..... | 26,062 | 100.0 | HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE | | |
| SEX AND AGE | | | Total population..... | 26,062 | 100.0 |
| Male..... | 12,321 | 47.3 | Hispanic or Latino (of any race)..... | 450 | 1.7 |
| Female..... | 13,741 | 52.7 | Mexican..... | 56 | 0.2 |
| Under 5 years..... | 1,640 | 6.3 | Puerto Rican..... | 122 | 0.5 |
| 5 to 9 years..... | 1,832 | 7.0 | Cuban..... | 24 | 0.1 |
| 10 to 14 years..... | 2,064 | 7.9 | Other Hispanic or Latino..... | 248 | 1.0 |
| 15 to 19 years..... | 1,959 | 7.5 | Not Hispanic or Latino..... | 25,612 | 98.3 |
| 20 to 24 years..... | 1,301 | 5.0 | White alone..... | 21,985 | 84.4 |
| 25 to 34 years..... | 2,533 | 9.7 | RELATIONSHIP | | |
| 35 to 44 years..... | 4,212 | 16.2 | Total population..... | 26,062 | 100.0 |
| 45 to 54 years..... | 4,155 | 15.9 | In households..... | 25,027 | 96.0 |
| 55 to 59 years..... | 1,222 | 4.7 | Householder..... | 8,982 | 34.5 |
| 60 to 64 years..... | 910 | 3.5 | Spouse..... | 5,396 | 20.7 |
| 65 to 74 years..... | 1,947 | 7.5 | Child..... | 8,883 | 34.1 |
| 75 to 84 years..... | 1,599 | 6.1 | Own child under 18 years..... | 6,412 | 24.6 |
| 85 years and over..... | 688 | 2.6 | Other relatives..... | 1,066 | 4.1 |
| Median age (years)..... | 39.3 | (X) | Under 18 years..... | 251 | 1.0 |
| 18 years and over..... | 19,341 | 74.2 | Nonrelatives..... | 710 | 2.7 |
| Male..... | 8,840 | 33.9 | Unmarried partner..... | 235 | 0.9 |
| Female..... | 10,501 | 40.3 | In group quarters..... | 1,035 | 4.0 |
| 21 years and over..... | 18,199 | 69.8 | Institutionalized population..... | 265 | 1.0 |
| 62 years and over..... | 4,750 | 18.2 | Noninstitutionalized population..... | 770 | 3.0 |
| 65 years and over..... | 4,234 | 16.2 | HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE | | |
| Male..... | 1,613 | 6.2 | Total households..... | 8,982 | 100.0 |
| Female..... | 2,621 | 10.1 | Family households (families)..... | 6,757 | 75.2 |
| RACE | | | With own children under 18 years..... | 3,364 | 37.5 |
| One race..... | 25,640 | 98.4 | Married-couple family..... | 5,396 | 60.1 |
| White..... | 22,252 | 85.4 | With own children under 18 years..... | 2,844 | 31.7 |
| Black or African American..... | 2,666 | 10.2 | Female householder, no husband present..... | 1,072 | 11.9 |
| American Indian and Alaska Native..... | 17 | 0.1 | With own children under 18 years..... | 443 | 4.9 |
| Asian..... | 531 | 2.0 | Nonfamily households..... | 2,225 | 24.8 |
| Asian Indian..... | 46 | 0.2 | Householder living alone..... | 1,905 | 21.2 |
| Chinese..... | 331 | 1.3 | Householder 65 years and over..... | 1,143 | 12.7 |
| Filipino..... | 17 | 0.1 | Households with individuals under 18 years..... | 3,529 | 39.3 |
| Japanese..... | 14 | 0.1 | Households with individuals 65 years and over..... | 2,909 | 32.4 |
| Korean..... | 29 | 0.1 | Average household size..... | 2.79 | (X) |
| Vietnamese..... | 66 | 0.3 | Average family size..... | 3.27 | (X) |
| Other Asian ¹ | 28 | 0.1 | HOUSING OCCUPANCY | | |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander..... | 10 | - | Total housing units..... | 9,161 | 100.0 |
| Native Hawaiian..... | 1 | - | Occupied housing units..... | 8,982 | 98.0 |
| Guamanian or Chamorro..... | 3 | - | Vacant housing units..... | 179 | 2.0 |
| Samoan..... | - | - | For seasonal, recreational, or | | |
| Other Pacific Islander ² | 6 | - | occasional use..... | 19 | 0.2 |
| Some other race..... | 164 | 0.6 | Homeowner vacancy rate (percent)..... | 0.4 | (X) |
| Two or more races..... | 422 | 1.6 | Rental vacancy rate (percent)..... | 2.9 | (X) |
| <i>Race alone or in combination with one</i> | | | HOUSING TENURE | | |
| <i>or more other races:</i> ³ | | | Occupied housing units..... | 8,982 | 100.0 |
| White..... | 22,537 | 86.5 | Owner-occupied housing units..... | 7,554 | 84.1 |
| Black or African American..... | 2,910 | 11.2 | Renter-occupied housing units..... | 1,428 | 15.9 |
| American Indian and Alaska Native..... | 111 | 0.4 | Average household size of owner-occupied units..... | 2.92 | (X) |
| Asian..... | 628 | 2.4 | Average household size of renter-occupied units..... | 2.09 | (X) |
| Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander..... | 23 | 0.1 | | | |
| Some other race..... | 311 | 1.2 | | | |

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Conventional State: | 66 |
| Conventional Federal: | 0 |

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| State (MRVP: | 3 |
| Federal (Section 8): | 109 |



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Milton is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate Route 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Routes 28 and 138 and Interstate Route 93, which shares the same roadway with State Routes 3 and 128.

Rail

Commuter rail service to South Station, Boston from the Fairmount Station in Hyde Park (travel time: 16 min.; 33 MBTA parking spaces) and from the Morton Street Station in Mattapan (travel time: 12 min.; no MBTA parking) and from Adams Street at Eliot in Milton. Conrail services a freight rail line through Milton. Contact number: (617) 783-6222

Bus

Milton is a member of the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority (MBTA) which provides fixed route bus service to Ashmont & Mattapan Stations on the Red Line. The MBTA also provides THE RIDE, a paratransit service for the elderly and disabled. Hudson bus lines provides service to Mattapan Station on the Red Line.

Other

The Norwood Memorial Airport, a Reliever (RL) facility, is easily accessible. It has 2 asphalt runways 4,001'x 150' and 4,007'x 150'. Instrument approaches available: Non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Blue Hills Trailside Museum

1904 Canton Avenue

(617) 333-0690

Captain Robert Bennet Forbes House Charitable Trust

215 Adams Street

(617) 696-1815

Suffolk Resolves House

1370 Canton Avenue

(617) 333-0644

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

Milton Medical Center

Long Term Care

Milton Health Center

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.